

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: §  
Eugene P. McLoughlin, et al. § Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
§  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned §  
§ Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: Not yet assigned §  
§  
For: Valves for Use in Wells § Attorney Docket: 68.0129CNT1  
§

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Amendments to the specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

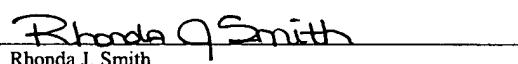
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October 24, 2003  
Date

  
Rhonda J. Smith